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## ISRAELI GOVT. ANNOUNCES PREPARATIONS FOR NATIONAL ELECTIONS FOR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

TEL AVIV, July 22. (JTA) -- The Israeli Government today announced preparations for national elections for members of a Constituent Assembly which must be established by October 1 of this year, according to the terms of the General Assembly partition decision of last November. A committee to prepare for the elections has been appointed, the announcement said, and its members are expected to begin working within the next few days.

The praesidium of the Zionist Actions Committee, the supreme ruling body of the world Zionist movement between World Zionist Congresses, announced today that the Actions Committee will meet here beginning Aug. 8.

The Ministers of Religion, Finance and Justice, in conjunction with the Jewish National Council, announced today that the Jews of Israel would continue to pay the present Jewish community tax to the Council until January, when the tax will be absorbed into the government's tax set-up. This will facilitate the gradual handing over of services of the Jewish National Council to the Israeli Government, it was explained.

The names of Israeli ministers to those Latin American countries which have recognized Israel will probably be announced shortly, a Foreign Office spokesman said today. He added, however, that it has not yet been decided whether a minister will be named for each country or will be assigned to several capitals.

## Gruenbaum Calls For Inclusion of Jerusalem in Israel

Israel must make every effort to bring the city of Jerusalem within its boundaries, Dr. Isaac Gruenbaum, Israeli Minister of the Interior, declared today in an address here before the first conference of the General Zionist Party of Israel held since proclamation of the Jewish State.

Dr. Gruenbaum, who was in Jerusalem throughout most of the Arab siege of the city, is the first member of the Israeli Government to voice the demand that Jerusalem, which was to have been internationalized under the U.N. partition plan for Palestine, be incorporated in the territory of Israel. The Jewish state, he said, cannot afford to leave Jerusalem in an Arab sea. He charged that the issuance of the second truce order had been hastened because of the danger that Jewish forces would otherwise have captured the entire city.

Dr. Fritz Bernstein, Israeli Minister of Trade and Industry, told the conference that Israel needed a strong economy to insure free enterprise and economic liberty which would attract foreign capital. He said that the Arab states had failed to destroy the small state of Israel because of their weak economic structure.

820 JEWISH REFUGEES ARRIVE IN HAIFA FROM CYPRUS; 600 OTHERS PREVENTED FROM SAILING

HAIFA, July 22. (JTA) -- A group of 820 Jewish refugee immigrants arrived here today from Cyprus aboard the immigrant ferry Pan Crescent. The former detainees revealed that at the last minute 600 other Jews, members of the various families aboard the Pan Crescent, were prevented from leaving by the British authorities. The British said that the 600 were "capable of bearing arms" and would therefore not be released during the truce.

The British-owned Shell refinery here resumed operations today, following orders from the Israeli Government, after it had been closed more than three months ago on the advice of the British Mandatory authorities. Israeli armed forces have moved into the refinery compound to take over the protection of the installations as well as the private radio transmitter, which hitherto had been operated by the Shell company without supervision, providing uncensored communication with Amman, the Transjordan capital, and with Tripoli, Lebanese seaport. Israeli officials have not levelled any accusations of misuse of the transmitter against Shell officials, but they have made the point that the existence of a privately-owned transmitter in a sovereign state during wartime is an "impossible incongruity."

Approximately 60,000 Arabs remain in the area extending from Acre on the Mediterranean coast to the Nazareth district in Lower Galilee, and consider themselves citizens of the state of Israel, it was learned today. The Nazareth district is held by the Israeli forces, but it is in that part of Galilee which the U.N. partition plan assigned to the Arabs.

Behor Shitreet, Israeli Minister of Minorities, visited Nazareth and Acre yesterday and conferred with Christian and Moslem leaders. At Nazareth he discussed with the Mayor, the chief magistrate and representatives of the Arab unions arrangements for the continuation of normal activities under the military occupation. At Acre, he received a committee of religious leaders in the presence of the Israeli area commander to consider measures to improve local conditions.

MAJOR PART OF ISRAELI \$20,000,000 NATIONAL LOAN SUBSCRIBED; CAMPAIGN ENDS THIS MONTH

TEL AVIV, July 22. (JTA) -- The Provisional Government of Israel announced today that \$18,400,000 of the 1948 \$20,000,000 national loan has already been subscribed. The loan campaign will close July 31, the government announcement said. It was also reported that an additional \$1,200,000 has already been pledged, leaving only \$400,000 still to be raised.

The Israeli Government has decided to establish a "war and marine risk insurance program" and has also agreed in principle to set up a trading company to channelize the Jewish state's export and import traffic, it was learned here. During the war, British marine insurance companies refused to insure Israel-bound cargoes unless they were transported by British vessels. British shipping companies, however, refused to handle the cargoes.

Despite the war in Palestine, the Jewish reforestation program continued with the planting of more than 500,000 trees at 27 different localities during the last six months, the Jewish National Fund announced today. The Fund also disclosed that it has acquired 48 parcels of land during the last six months, totalling 3,000 acres.

Jews Would Have Captured All of Jerusalem But for Truce, Israeli Troop Commander Says

TEL AVIV, July 22. (JTA) -- "When the fighting resumed in Jerusalem after the expiration of the first truce," Brig. D. Shaluti, commander of the Israeli Sixth Brigade in Jerusalem, declared today at a press conference here, "we planned to take all of Jerusalem, including the Old City."

"Actually, of course, we had only seven days, after which the Security Council began to discuss an immediate truce in Jerusalem and eventually we were forced to change our plans and launch some kind of attack with only a few hours left to us before the truce deadline became effective. We intended, with this attack, to show the world our intention of regaining the Old City," he said.

"During the nine days of fighting," the 45-year-old commander continued, "we gained great strategic successes in capturing Malha, Ein Karem and other positions. Our position was greatly improved thanks to the arrival of artillery since the British evacuation began. The Irgunists and Sternists did not interfere, and certainly helped in our military actions," he added.

Commenting on yesterday's truce boundaries demarcation conference between the Arab commanders and himself in Jerusalem, Shaluti said it differed from other meetings with Arab officers in that there were no British officers representing the Arabs. He estimated that, as a result of recent fighting in the city, between 25,000 and 30,000 Arab civilians fled from the Old City sector.

U.S. Consul Taken Over Y.M.C.A. Building In Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, July 22. (JTA) -- The U.S. Consulate-General today took over the imposing Y.M.C.A. building here from the International Red Cross. In a brief ceremony, the Red Cross banner was hauled down and the American flag was hoisted in its place. Consul-General John J. MacDonald, members of his staff and a detachment of U.S. Navy men, attended the ceremony.

The U.N. mediator's staff will take over the King David Hotel again tomorrow as its Jerusalem headquarters. The hotel served as Count Folke Bernadotte's staff's living quarters and offices during the initial four-week truce period. Israeli Army units occupied the building during the nine days between the two truces.

ISRAEL OPENS TRADE OFFICE IN LONDON; CITRUS EXPORT AGREEMENT REACHED WITH EIRE

LONDON, July 22. (JTA) -- The Provisional Government of Israel has opened a trade office here, it was learned today. A delegation of Palestine citrus merchants, who were invited to come here by the Ministry of Food, is expected shortly. Negotiations for the sale of oranges and other citrus fruits to Britain will begin as soon as the delegation arrives.

Meanwhile, it was reported here that Israel and Eire have signed an agreement providing for the export of citrus products from the Jewish state to Eire. For some time now, the Irish Free State has been exporting considerable supplies of canned meats to Israel.

The restoration of airmail service between Britain and Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa and 12 other cities in Jewish Palestine was announced here today by the General Post Office. The announcement said that similar service to Arab-controlled areas will be resumed as soon as "satisfactory local arrangements can be made."

BERNADOTTE TO CONFER WITH ARAB LEADERS IN LEBANON; OBSERVERS LEAVE FOR PALESTINE TODAY

LAKE SUCCESS, July 22. (JTA) -- U.N. Palestine mediator Count Folke Bernadotte will go to Beirut Saturday to confer with the president of Lebanon in what may be the first major move for an over-all settlement of the Palestine issue, it was revealed here tonight after the Secretariat received a message from Bernadotte.

Bernadotte received the invitation from the president of Lebanon. Present at the talks will be the secretary-general of the Arab League, Rahman Abdul Azzam Pasha. The object of the conference was not revealed, but the fact that the Arabs took the initiative to call on the mediator in contrast to the previous difficulties the mediator had with Arab negotiations is regarded here as a turning point in Arab policy on the Palestine question.

One hundred and ten military observers will leave the United Nations mediation headquarters on the island of Rhodes for Palestine tomorrow, it was disclosed here. They will first report to the U.N. truce control center at Haifa before being assigned posts. Before leaving, the officers -- French, American and Belgian -- will be given a thorough briefing on their task in maintaining the U. N. truce.

The capitals of three Arab states are among the points to which U.N. observers will be sent. They are Amman, Beirut and Damascus -- capitals of Transjordan, Lebanon and Syria, respectively. Other points to be observed at once are Tel Aviv, Haifa and Nazareth, under Israeli control; Jerusalem, under Jewish-Arab control; and Nablus and Gaza, under Arab domination.

Israel Is A Reality, Head of Mission To United Nations Says

The state of Israel is a reality, Arthur Lourie, director of the Israeli mission to the United Nations, declared here today at a press conference, to which he reported on his recent trip to the Jewish state. He described the country as completely under military control of the Jews, as all of Palestine might have been within a few weeks if the fighting had continued.

He said it should be understood that the Jews accepted the new truce out of strength and not out of weakness. The relation of the Jews to the U.N. observers, he reported, was generally good. But he was very critical of the U.S. Consul in Jerusalem, who, in his capacity as member of the Truce Commission, sponsored recommendations which would tend to curtail the precarious food supply to the people of Jerusalem. He reported much bitterness by the Jerusalem population against mediator Count Folke Bernadotte's suggestion to turn over the city to the Arabs. Jews in Palestine are also very critical of Bernadotte's stand on the immigration policy, Lourie stated.

Commenting on the mass exodus of the Arab population from Israeli territory, Lourie estimated that only about fifty thousand Arabs were left in the state of Israel north of the Negev, and possibly another fifty thousand more in the desert area. He said the Arabs fled in "unreasoning panic" when Arab forces lost battles -- in most cases induced to do so by Arab commanders for "political reasons." Asked how the Israeli Government envisages the rehabilitation of these Arabs, Lourie said his government had not yet taken any action but suggested that some government circles believe the problem will be eventually solved by the mass exchange of Arabs in Israeli for the hundreds of thousands of Jews now living in Arab states.

At a second press conference, U.N. Acting Secretary-General Dr. Victor Hoo disclosed an inventory of supplies which Count Bernadotte had requested of the U.S. Government. These consist of three destroyers, 150 jeeps, 30 jeep freighters, six 6-ton trucks, 430 lighter trucks, 15 transport planes, ten observer planes and two helicopters. Dr. Hoo said no meeting of the Security Council was scheduled for this week, but added that a meeting could be called unexpectedly.

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ENVOYS OF JEWISH GROUPS IN BRITAIN TO ATTEND PARLEY OF U.N. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

LONDON, July 22. (JTA) -- Representatives of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Anglo-Jewish Association, the British section of the World Jewish Congress and the Agudas Israel will leave for Geneva today to attend the sessions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council which opened earlier this week.

The Council's agenda includes consideration of the draft convention on genocide, the report of the Committee on Human Rights, the report of the Secretary-General on refugees and displaced persons and the election of three members of the Council to the proposed joint economic board of the Jewish and Arab states in Palestine visualized in the General Assembly partition decision. The Council will also take up a proposed international convention dealing with the question of persons who disappeared during the last war as a result of the war or persecution.

ASHES OF EGON KISCH, CZECH JEWISH WRITER, TO BE PLACED IN POSITION OF HONOR IN PRAGUE

PRAGUE, July 22. (JTA) -- The ashes of Egon Ervin Kisch, noted Jewish writer who died here March 31, will be placed in a position of honor in the Prague crematorium, it was learned here today.

The decision to honor Kisch, who was elected honorary chairman of the Council of Jewish Communities a few days before his death, was taken by the Central National Committee of the Capital. It is expected that one of the streets of the city will be renamed in Kisch's honor in the near future.

POLISH PROFESSORS URGE WORLD SCHOLARS TO PROTEST ARAB BOMBING OF HEBREW UNIVERSITY

WARSAW, July 22. (JTA) -- Scholars throughout the "civilized world" were urged today by Poland's leading university professors to protest against the "vandalistic bombardment" by the "Arab aggressors" of the Hebrew University and the Jewish National Library in Jerusalem.

The appeal was signed by the presidents of Poland's 18 universities and by the chairman of the Polish Scientific Academy.

FRENCH MOGEN DAVID PRESENTS THREE AMBULANCES TO ISRAELI ARMY REPRESENTATIVES

PARIS, July 22. (JTA) -- The French division of the Red Mogen David today turned over three ambulances to representatives of the Israeli Army. The vehicles were purchased with funds raised in France.

Abraham Goldberg, Israeli consul-general designate, pointed out during the presentation ceremony that in 1943 and 1944, the Palestine Red Mogen David contributed ambulances to the Allied armies in Europe.

30 JEWS WHO ENTERED ARGENTINA ILLEGALLY RELEASED FROM JAIL ON ORDERS OF PERON

BUENOS AIRES, July 22. (JTA) -- More than 30 Jews who were arrested recently for entering Argentina illegally were released today on orders of President Juan Peron, following an appeal from the president of the DAIA, central Jewish representative body in Argentina, to free the Jews and grant them legal status.

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT URGED TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL BY SOCIALISTS, IALCR ORGANIZATION

MONTREAL, July 22. (JTA) -- Declaring that "we are disappointed that the Government of Canada has not seen fit to recognize the state of Israel," M.J. Coldwell, leader of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, told a political rally here that the Socialist party has consistently urged the enforcement of the original U.N. partition decision and the immediate recognition of the Jewish state.

The Canadian Congress of Labor today urged the government to grant recognition to Israel. In a message to Minister for External Affairs Louis St. Laurent, Pat Conroy, a leader of the Congress, asserted that Canada's support of the Palestine partition decision last November in the General Assembly debate should logically be followed by recognition.

DECISION TO CLOSE CUBAN OFFICE DICTATED BY MORE URGENT NEEDS IN OTHER AREAS, J.D.C. SAYS

NEW YORK, July 22. (JTA) -- The decision to close the Havana office of the Joint Distribution Committee on Oct. 1 was explained here today by officials of the organization as a move designed to curtail expenditures in areas where the local Jewish community can provide the necessary care for displaced Jews residing in the community and shift the available funds to countries where needs are comparatively more acute.

At present, there are 200 refugee Jews in Havana who must depend on relief assistance since Cuban law bars the employment of non-citizens. The Jewish population of Cuba is 12,000.

At a recent meeting with Jewish community leaders in Havana, Louis Sobel, special representative of the J.D.C., explained that the agency feels that the Cuban Jewish community is ready and financially able to assume responsibility for the refugees. Current obligations in Europe, Shanghai and -- to an over-growing extent -- in Moslem countries, Sobel told the meeting, compel the J.D.C. to reduce its present appropriations in areas where the needs are comparatively not as urgent.

144 SHANGHAI JEWISH REFUGEES ARRIVE IN SAN FRANCISCO; 53 DP'S LEAVE BREMEN FOR U.S.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 22. (JTA) -- A group of 144 Jewish refugees from Shanghai arrived here today aboard the S.S. General Meigs, it was announced by the local office of the United Service for New Americans. An additional 320 Shanghai Jews are expected to land here on Aug. 11.

(In New York, the Joint Distribution Committee announced that a group of 53 Jewish DP immigrants left Bremen last Friday aboard the S.S. Marine Flasher. Thirty-two of the immigrants are being sponsored by the J.D.C.)

HENRY MONSKY MEMORIAL ATHLETIC FIELD FOR USE OF VETERANS TO BE DEDICATED SUNDAY

NEW YORK, July 22. (JTA) -- The Henry Monsky Memorial Athletic Field, located at the Northport Veterans Hospital, on Long Island, N.Y., will be dedicated this Sunday and officially turned over to the U.S. Army by Max J. Schneider, president of District Grand Lodge No. 1, it was announced here today.

Constructed at a cost of \$100,000 in honor of the late B'nai B'rith president and outstanding American Jewish leader, the field is expected to accommodate more than 3,000 wounded veterans of the Northport Hospital. Maj. Gen. Harry A. Vaughan, President Truman's military aide, and Maj. Gen. R. Woodruff, deputy commander of the First Army, will accept the field on behalf of the President.